
FOR MORE INFORMATION

ISSP District #1
103 W. Roosevelt Rd. • Villa Park, IL 60181
630-693-0551

ISSP District #2
4615 E. State St., Ste. 101 • Rockford, IL 61108
815-484-8100

ISSP District #3
3650 Winchester Rd. • Springfield, IL 62707
217-785-5486

ISSP District #4
220 S. 12th St. • Mt. Vernon, IL 62864
618-244-8343

ISSP District #4A
400 W. Main St. • Belleville, IL 62220
618-236-8765

Secretary of State Police

BUYING OR SELLING A VEHICLE



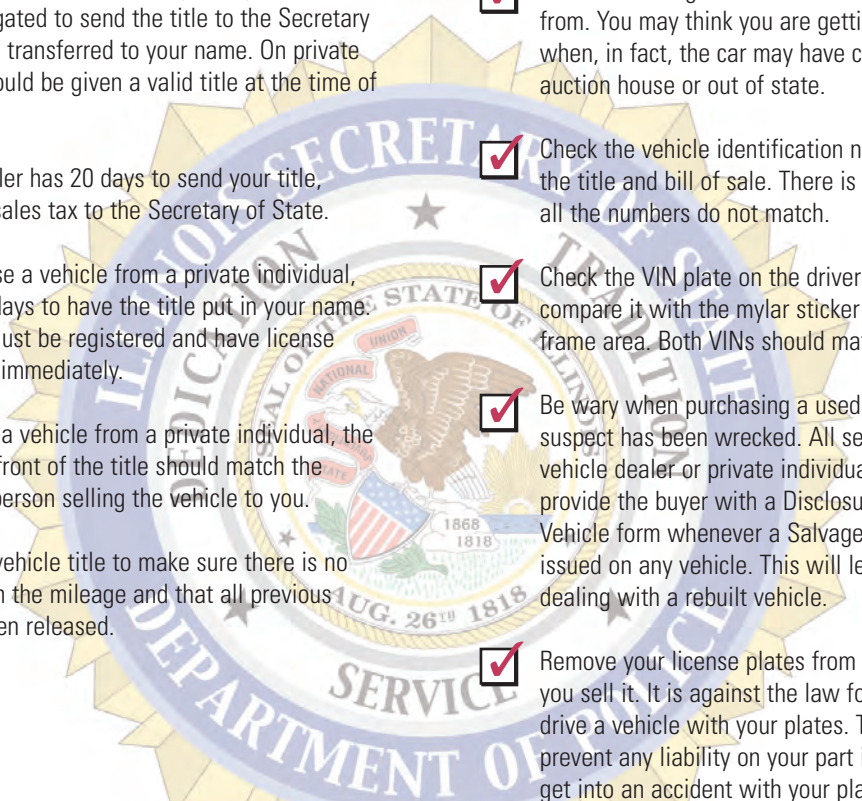
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Illinois Secretary of State

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Most people do not buy or sell vehicles frequently, and there can be confusion about the procedure. You may be excited about buying a new or used vehicle and trying to make your best “deal” without paying attention to other details. This can be especially critical when it comes to purchasing a used vehicle. Following is a list of items that you, the consumer, need to be aware of when purchasing a vehicle to avoid problems and complaints down the road.

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- ✓ Make sure there is a title when you buy a vehicle. A dealer is obligated to send the title to the Secretary of State to be transferred to your name. On private sales, you should be given a valid title at the time of delivery.
 - ✓ You have the right to ask where the vehicle came from. You may think you are getting a local trade when, in fact, the car may have come from an auction house or out of state.
 - ✓ By law, a dealer has 20 days to send your title, transfer and sales tax to the Secretary of State.
 - ✓ Check the vehicle identification number (VIN) with the title and bill of sale. There is something wrong if all the numbers do not match.
 - ✓ If you purchase a vehicle from a private individual, you have 20 days to have the title put in your name. The vehicle must be registered and have license plates put on immediately.
 - ✓ Check the VIN plate on the driver's side dash and compare it with the mylar sticker on the driver's door frame area. Both VINs should match.
 - ✓ When buying a vehicle from a private individual, the name on the front of the title should match the name of the person selling the vehicle to you.
 - ✓ Be wary when purchasing a used vehicle you suspect has been wrecked. All sellers, whether a vehicle dealer or private individual, are obligated to provide the buyer with a Disclosure of Rebuilt Vehicle form whenever a Salvage Title has been issued on any vehicle. This will let you know you are dealing with a rebuilt vehicle.
 - ✓ Examine the vehicle title to make sure there is no discrepancy in the mileage and that all previous liens have been released.
 - ✓ Remove your license plates from your old car before you sell it. It is against the law for someone else to drive a vehicle with your plates. This also will prevent any liability on your part if the buyer should get into an accident with your plates on the vehicle.

Contact the Secretary of State Department of Police regarding any improper activity by someone trying to sell you a vehicle, or if you have problems with a title or registration on a vehicle purchased from a dealership. Remember, an informed consumer is a better protected consumer when purchasing a vehicle.